

CLMPTO 10/06/04 JW

Amend Claims 3,9,11,12,14-17

3. (original) Method of selecting at least one transmission channel from a plurality of transmission channels, in a time division multiple access protocol, characterized in that in transmission has:

* receiving for each channel a periodic indication of the transmission quality of that channel;

* storing these indications for each channel during a time window;

* selecting at least one channel that has the best average transmission quality indication possible relative to the transmission quality indications stored for that channel during the time window.

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3. (original) Method of selection according to Claim 2, characterized in that the step of selecting at least one channel is carried out from a plurality of channels over which data are to be transmitted and from these channels at least one channel that has the been an average the best current transmission quality indication possible relative to the transmission quality indications stored for that channel during the time window.

3. (currently amended) Method according to Claim 3, characterized in that in selecting, during a step (a), in determining the number

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of channels N , the size of the time window T and the initial values of the transmission qualities of each channel during the time window and in that these parameters may be updated by interrupting the service of multiple channels by a reinitialisation function inside machine, particularly when the number of channels N changes due to the activity of the user;

4. (original) Method according to claim 3, characterized in that it consists in executing, during each unit of time, the said series of instructions consisting in:

- * executing a loop (30) to determine for each channel i (i : the position (31) of the current transmission quality indication relative to those stored for that channel during the time window);
- * selecting, during a step (32), from the channels the which data are to be transmitted at least one channel i (i :) that has the best or among the best values (33);
- * during a step (34), giving transmission authorisation at least to the channel i (i).

5. (original) Method according to claim 4, characterized in that the loop (30) consists, for each channel i (i : where i is from 1 to N), in:

- * acquiring, during a step (35), a transmission quality indication of the channel i (i), that is said;
- * initialising, during a step (36), a value of position P at i ;
- * repeating a second loop (37) in order to determine a value indicative of the position P (i).

- executing a third loop (83) in order to update the transmission quality indications of the channel (8,3) during the time window.

4. (original) Method according to Claim 3, characterized in that the loop (83) consists, for each loop index (k, where k is from 4 to 8, i.e.

- evaluating the result of a test (73) defined by the relation: $min(k, 8) > 0$;
- incrementing the indication of position (93) by one unit during a step (83) if the result of the test (73) is positive;
- otherwise, evaluating the result of a test (73) defined by the relation: $min(k, 8) == 0$ (i.e. AND $k == 8$, where AND is a condition returning a random variable, in particular uniformly distributed over the integer set {0,1});
- executing the step (83) of incrementing the indication of position (93) if the result of the test (73) is positive.

5. (original) Method according to claim 3, characterized in that the loop (83) consists, for each loop index (k, where k is from 4 to 8, i.e.

- assigning the previously stored value difference to the variable $diff_k$ during a step (84);

6. (original) Method according to claim 3, characterized in that a comparison made on a random choice is applied to the step (84) when several active channels have a minimum indication of position (93).

9. (currently amended) Method according to claim 2, characterized in that if several

channels are authorized to transmit simultaneously, the step (iii) consists in selecting from the channels the which data are to be transmitted those that have the best position (VI); and in that a step (ii) consists in giving transmission authorizations to those channels.

10. (original) Method according to claim 8, characterized in that the second step (ii) comprises a predetermined connection to accept the indication of position (VI) when the current transmission quality indication of the channel, that is (xv), is equal to one or more values of the nine values.

11. (original) Method according to claim 8 characterized in that the steps (i), (ii), (iii) are, possibly, in parallel, processed in parallel and not sequentially.

12. (currently unclaimed) Communication system using the method of claim 10, characterized in that it comprises:

- * a method for receiving, for at least one channel, a periodic indication of transmission quality of that channel;
- * a memory for storing the transmission quality indications of each channel during a time window;
- * a comparing circuit to determine, for each channel for which a periodic indication of transmission quality has been received, the position of the current transmission quality indication of that channel relative to those stored for that channel during the time window;
- * a circuit for selecting at least one transmission channel that has the best current transmission

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quality indication position relative to those assigned
for that channel during the time window.

13. ~~Incorrectly amended:~~ Communication system according to
Claim 12, characterized in that the circuit for selecting
at least one transmission channel comprises a means of
selecting channels over which data are to be transmitted
and that here the base or one amongst the base different
transmission quality indication position(s) indicates the
positions assigned for that channel on those channels
during the time window.

14. ~~Incorrectly amended:~~ Communication system
according to Claim 12, characterized in that it
characterized in that it comprises an input and circuit
for acquiring the transmission quality signal of the
channel (2,3), that is (2,3) on the date x .

15. ~~Incorrectly amended:~~ Communication system
according to Claim 12, characterized in that it
characterized in that it comprises at least one memory
(30) consisting of τ blocks, each block (30,x) containing
the value of transmission quality of the channel (2,3) on
the date (x-1), that is (2,3), where x is from 1 to τ .

16. ~~Incorrectly amended:~~ Communication system
according to Claim 12, characterized in that it
characterized in that it comprises at least one (23)
of at most τ comparison circuits, with circuit (23,x)
comparing the current transmission quality indication
contained in at least one circuit (21) with the
transmission quality indication on the date x contained
in the memory block (30,x), where x is from 1 to τ .

17. ~~Incorrectly amended:~~ Communication system
according to Claim 12, characterized in that it
characterized in that it comprises at least one adder
(24), to the output of which is connected the output of
each comparison circuit (23,x), where x is from 1 to τ ,
and an independent input binary giving the value 1.

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